

Message Text

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C O N F I D E N T I A L GENEVA 5097

EO 11652: GDS

TAGS: CSCE, PFOR, XG

SUBJECT: DISCUSSION OF STAGE III TIMING AT JULY 2 COORDINATING
COMMITTEE MEETING

FOR EUR/RPM

REF: GENEVA 5048

1. AT JULY 2 MEETING OF COORDINATING COMMITTEE, SOVIETS AGAIN
MARKED TIME ON THE QUESTION OF SETTING A DATE FOR STAGE III
OF THE CONFERENCE. STATEMENTS BY SOVIET AND OTHER WARSAW PACT
REPS ON THE TIMING QUESTION WERE LIMITED TO URGING ALL DELE-
GATIONS TO BE IN CONTACT WITH THEIR AUTHORITIES DURING THE
COURSE OF THE DAY TO MAKE IT POSSIBLE FOR A DECISION TO BE
TAKEN AT THE REGULARLY SCHEDULED COORDINATING COMMITTEE MEETING
ON JULY 3.

2. ADDITIONAL ELEMENT IN JULY 2 DISCUSSION WAS SOMEWHAT IN-
TEMPERATE ATTACK BY POLISY DELEGATION CHIEF ON STATEMENT
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BY FRG REP AT JULY 1 MEET ING (REFTEL) ON NEED TO COMPLETE

PRINCIPLES TEXTS BEFORE STAGE III DATE COULD BE SET. PROFESSING TO BE ALARMED BY THIS TURN OF EVENTS, PLISH REP SAID THE FRG STATEMENT HAD BEEN "NEGATIVE, PRESUMPTUOUS AND IRRESPONSIBLE" AND CALLED ON THE FRG REP TO TAKE IT BACK IMMEDIATELY. FRG REP REPLIED SHARPLY TO POLISH STATEMENT, CAUTIONING ALL REPRESENTATIVES AGAINST INTRODUCING POLEMEICS INTO COORDINATING COMMITTEE DISCUSSIONS.

3. ONLY OTHER STATEMENT OF NOTE WAS ATTACK BY SWISS REPRESENTATIVE ON DELEGATIONS WHO HE BELIEVES WERE NOT TAKING WORK OF CONFERENCE SERIOUSLY ENOUGH. HE ALSO CHARGED THAT "SOME COUNTRIES" WERE BEGINNING A CAMPAIGN TO BLAME THE SMALL NEUTRAL COUNTRIES FOR THE LACK OF PROGRESS TOWARD CONCLUSION OF STAGE II. REJECTING ANY SUGGESTION THAT THE SMALLER COUNTRIES WERE NOT DOING THEIR PART, THE SWISS REP SAID IF SUCH INNUENDOS DID NOT CEASE, HE WOULD "NAME NAMES" TO THE PRESS IN DISCUSSING WHICH DELEGATIONS WERE REALLY RESPONSIBLE FOR THE SLOW PACE OF WORK. (SWISS REP WAS EVIDENTLY REFERRING TO FRG, BECAUSE OF THEIR STICKY ATTITUDE TOWARD DRAFTING OF THE PRINCIPLES, AND FRANCE, WHICH IS CURRENTLY BLOCKING PROGRESS ON FOLLOW-UP, AS REPORTED IN SEPTEL.) SWISS REPRESENTATIVE ALSO EXPRESSED DISSATISFACTION AT THE IMPASSE DEVELOPING IN COORDINATING COMMITTEE DISCUSSION OF STAGE III DATE, AND SAID HE RESERVED THE RIGHT TO MAKE NEW SUGGSSTIONS ON MEANS FOR BREAKING THE DEADLOCK.

4. COMMENT: AS DISCUSSION OF STAGE III TIMING CONTINUES TO BOG DOWN, SEVERAL DELEGATIONS APPEAR TO BE LOOKING FOR COMPROMISE METHODS OF BREAKING THE PRESENT IMPASSE. WE REPORT IN SEPTEL A PRPOSAL MADE BY THE FRENCH AMBASSADOR AT THE JULY 1 NATO HEADS OF DELEGATION CAUCUS. GIVEN THE STATEMENT BY THE SWISS AMBASSADOR,, IT IS POSSIBLE THAT A GROUP OF COUNTRIES WILL ATTEMPT IN THE NEXT DAY OR TWO TO SUGGEST A MEANS OF MEETING BOTH SOVIET DEMANDS THAT A DATE BE SET AND NATO AND NEUTRAL REQUIREMENTS FOR SOME DEMONSTRATION OF PROGRESS ON REMAINING OPEN POINTS. DALE

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